



Golfing
in the winter
see page 10

OSAP form distribution runs smoothly

By Victoria Long

The beginning-of-term distribution of Ontario Student Assistance Program forms at Doon campus went smoothly the first week of the winter term, Carol Walsh of the financial aid office said. By Jan. 8, the bulk of the forms had been picked up and lineups were short or non-existent.

Over 2,000 Doon students applied for OSAP loans and over half had picked up their documents

by Jan. 7, she said. By Jan. 8 at noon, there was no lineup at all.

"This is not a true picture of what we've been going through," clerk Val Groves said. "It's been really busy."

Starting Jan. 12, students who want to get their OSAP paperwork done, can come to the front desk at the registrar's office between 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. Monday to Thursday or phone for an appointment.

Changes students need to make

to their applications can currently be processed in about two weeks, Walsh said.

Part of the reason the task went smoothly was that the majority of students provided the necessary documentation, Walsh said. She said the government requires Social Insurance cards for identification, so delays can occur if students do not have them on hand.

There are fewer OSAP loans this year under the new Ontario government regulations requiring

students who apply for this type of assistance to carry a minimum 60 per cent course load except for special needs students whose requirement remains at 40 per cent.

Walsh said some students were bound to have been affected by the change. She said she noticed some students signed up for an extra elective or a course offered through continuing education to make up the extra credit for student loan eligibility.

Another change to OSAP regulation this academic year evoked a strong response from the Ontario Association of Financial Aid Advisors.

The controversial change was the lowering of the part-time income limit for students to \$600 per calendar year, from \$50 a week.

Students with income over the maximum who have not reported the excess will be in an overpayment situation which will affect

Please see OSAP, page 2



Rock on

Dave Klym, guitarist for the Mike Plume band who played in the Sanctuary Jan. 8. See story, H3.

(Photo by Amy Sonnenberg)

Faculty member grieving for son

By Rachel Pearce

After returning to Conestoga following the Christmas break, faculty member John McIntosh said he found himself telling acquaintances his holidays were "fine" out of habit.

But his holidays were not fine.

His 22-year-old son, David McIntosh, died of an asthma attack on New Year's Eve.

David was a second-semester materials management student at Conestoga. He was with friends in Kitchener when he had his attack.

"They had been discussing their plans for the evening when it happened," said McIntosh, a full-time instructor who teaches strategies for student success and communications.

McIntosh said the fact that he came directly back to work is not a sign of strength.

"I'm not being brave," he said. "People sent so many flowers, our house is now a jungle. I just... I just couldn't sit there."

McIntosh said David's interests included music, travel, and camping. He would go with his father to camps in the Muskokas during summer months. He was a young man who was highly motivated, but not materialistic.

"Things were not an issue for David," he said. "People were. He has kept most of his friends forever, and they all came to the funeral. People seemed to warm up to him easily."



David McIntosh, 22, died New Year's Eve of an asthma attack. He was a Conestoga student.

(Photo contributed by John McIntosh)

Paul Knight, director of Conestoga's materials management program, had David in his business communications class in the fall semester. He said he remembers David as being an enthusiastic student who worked well with classmates.

McIntosh said his relationship with his son was a very good one. "I did a lot of work in the community with families and sometimes parents would come and talk to me about their children and would be upset about some of the things they had done — you know, the kinds of juvenile things that we all go through.

But with David, it was never like that."

McIntosh said his faith has helped him and his wife deal with their son's death. "We agree that he's gone, but the relationship is still there."

A funeral service for David was held Jan. 4 at St. Thomas Anglican Church in Cambridge.

David is survived by his father and his mother, Donna McIntosh; his sisters, Christine Hillier of Cambridge and Sarah; and his brothers Paul and Eric.

David also left behind aunts, uncles, cousins and two close friends, Rob and Christa.

DSA photocopier vandalized

By Erica Ayliffe

A Doon Student Association photocopier was vandalized before the Christmas break, causing around \$1,350 worth of damage.

The photocopier, placed outside Room 2A19 for students' use, was found with its touch screen broken on Dec. 17 by a security worker at around 8:50 p.m.

"Someone cracked the touch screen, making the machine useless," said DSA president Chris Kroeker.

The glass screen controls the number of copies, paper size and the other operations of the copier. That part alone costs \$1,350 to replace.

The organization leased and installed the photocopier in December. They have not received their first bill.

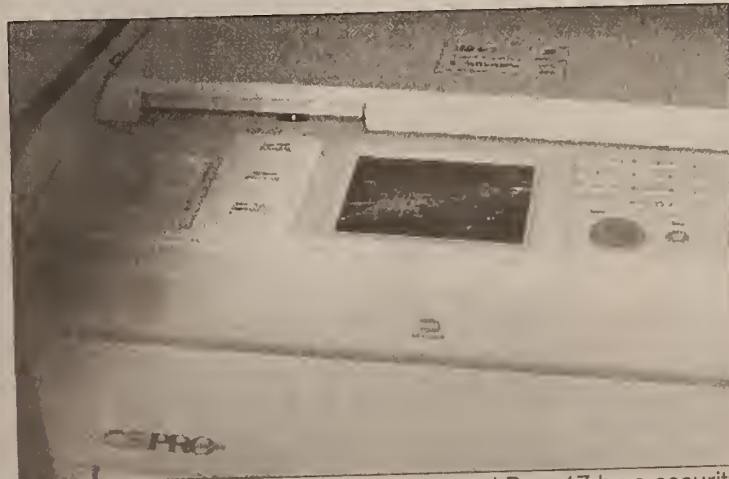
Security worker Cathrine Downey said in an interview that the screen was probably broken by a frustrated student. She commented that the copier was broken around exam time.

The DSA is claiming the cost to

fix the copier from its insurance company.

Kroeker and the DSA's director of student life, Becky Boertien, are looking into moving the fixed copier into a less remote location, such as inside the bookstore or in the open access lab in 2A60.

Downey said if the security office gets any information on who damaged the copier, they will follow that lead even though it was DSA property and not college property that was damaged.



This DSA photocopier was found damaged Dec. 17 by a security worker. The damage cost \$1,350.

(Photo by Erica Ayliffe)

News in Brief

DSA offers more funding

By Erica Ayliffe

The Doon Student Association created 10 new bursaries and five new scholarships available to students with good marks and students in financial need.

The 10 bursaries, worth \$250 each, will be given to students with financial difficulties. The five \$100 scholarships will be given to students with top marks.

The DSA made the decision to increase the number of bursaries and scholarships it offers during an executive meeting Jan. 6.

Last year's council created two scholarships and two bursaries around March. The money was to be administered by the college's

financial department and was to be given to students in February, so last year's money was not used.

While last year's DSA was making the budget for 1997-1998, they allotted another \$2,300 for the bursary and scholarship program on top of \$700 they already put toward the fund. This year's DSA decided to use that money to offer more bursaries than scholarships to help people who are in financial need.

DSA president Chris Kroeker, said the DSA will budget money for this program in next year's budget. He said he wasn't sure how much money will be given out, but said it will probably be the same amount.

More need for food vouchers

By Erica Ayliffe

The Doon Student Association's student food voucher program seems to be quite successful, according to the organization's director of student life.

Becky Boertien said, since September, the DSA has given \$580 worth of \$5 and \$10 Zehrs vouchers to the college's student services staff to administer.

The DSA ran this program last year, but spent half the amount that they've spent this year. Boertien said there seems to be more of a need this year.

The DSA also offers a student food bank, but decided to provide vouchers so students could

buy milk, bread and fresh produce.

Joan Magazine, of student services, said that student services gives the vouchers to students they find are short of adequate food.

She said the vouchers are a last measure and usually a one-time deal. Staff usually recommend the DSA's food bank as a first option, said Magazine. They also try to help students with financial planning and decision making, she said.

Recently Conestoga staff and students donated around \$150 to the voucher program, with one student writing a cheque for \$25. That money will be given to student services in the form of vouchers shortly.

OSAP- continued from page 1 their allotment next year, she said. Walsh said some students shied away from part-time jobs because of the new restriction.

Peer-tutoring coordinator Myrna Nicholas at Conestoga, said she alerted tutors to the new OSAP regulations. The tutor is in an

unpredictable situation because their income depends on the demand for their services, she said. They don't know how many hours they will be putting in. No one has yet reached the income limit, but she said she is continuing to monitor the situation closely.



Students stand in the first of three lines for Conestoga's meningitis vaccination clinic Jan. 9.

(Photo by Rita Fatila)

Free meningitis clinic comes to Doon campus

By Victoria Long

"Vaccination forms here. You guys may go. Please stop."

At Doon campus' free meningitis vaccination clinic for students, staff and their family members aged two to 22 Friday, marketing student Wendy Lang gave the event a carnival-like flair with her upbeat traffic control style.

Lang, the only non-nursing student volunteer, said her mandate was to marshal the clinic lineup in a manner that met fire regulations by keeping the hallways passable. Business was brisk but waiting time was only 15 minutes, she said.

Although most in the lineup were in their late teens or early twenties, many families with toddlers or children attended.

The vaccine given is effective for about 80 per cent of the population for the four common strains of meningococcal bacteria it targets, said the Waterloo Region's community health department's vaccine fact sheet.

Children under the age of two are unlikely to develop immunity.

Two- to four-year-olds will probably only be protected for a year by the vaccine, whereas those aged four to 22 will be protected for three to five years, the fact sheet said.

Margaret, who preferred not to give her surname, of the community health department's Meningitis Information Line, said that normally by 20 years of age, people will have been exposed to the germs and will have developed antibodies. However, the latest case to emerge is a 23-year-old who attended a New Year's Eve party at the University of Waterloo.

A Jan. 8 press release from the community health department states that health department and senior public health branch officials are not recommending an upward expansion of the age range for public health-administered vaccinations because the latest victim had engaged in the close sharing behaviors known to transmit the bacteria only with a small group of close friends.

But the 11 confirmed cases of meningococcal infection in Waterloo Region in 1997 were in

victims aged eight to 27.

Andrew Leith, a data entry clerk in the registrar's office at Doon campus, said, "Frankly, I think nothing is predictable and how can you narrow down an age category? People mature at different rates. One person's immune system may be completely developed at 22, while another's is not."

Third-year nursing student volunteers, Debbie Santos and Sue Starling, were checking ID for the clinic. They said their instructions were to cut off approval at age 22 with no exceptions.

Third-year graphic design student, Anna Domanska, said, "I don't think it's right. Everyone is a human being; everyone pays taxes; and everyone should be able to get a shot."

A Jan. 6 story in the Kitchener Record stated the vaccine costs \$6 per dose and Ontario Health Minister Elizabeth Witmer said that although the provincial Tory downloading puts the entire cost of public health on municipalities as of Jan. 1, the province may pick up the lion's share of the cost of clinics in Waterloo Region because the campaign began in 1997.



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NEWS

VP of human resources resigns

By Greg Bisch

John MacKenzie is a dedicated family man, an avid golfer and a professional who loves solving problems, says Dick Parker, coordinator of Conestoga's social services program.

"John is a very open, caring and friendly person," says Parker, who is also one of MacKenzie's golfing buddies.

MacKenzie is resigning from his position as the college's vice-president of human resources, continuing education and training and development on Jan. 16.

He will be moving to London, Ont., to take the position of vice-president of human resources for Comcare Limited.

Upon meeting MacKenzie, he gave a composed smile, a sturdy handshake and modestly introduced himself. Although confident in the surroundings of his office in the student services building, he seemed nervous while trying to describe himself.

"This is strange, I don't know what to say," chuckled MacKenzie. "I think they (his co-workers) view me as a genuine human being. I think they feel I am honest with people and try to treat people with respect."

In contrast, Debra Croft, manager of human resources, had little trouble finding nice things to say about her co-worker.

"I had a very positive and open



John Mackenzie, vice-president of human resources, continuing education and training and development at Conestoga College was to resign Friday.
(Photo by Greg Bisch)

relationship with John," said Croft. "Very positive and approachable by all the employee's at the college."

As well, on a professional level, Croft said he is a considerate and careful man who believes in analytically evaluating decisions before making them.

"(As well), he has a good sense of humor," she said. "He has the ability to see the humorous side

of any issue."

MacKenzie said that he regrets leaving friends, like Croft, behind at Conestoga. However, he expressed excitement toward his upcoming employment at Comcare Limited.

"It (Comcare) provides community care to individuals, corporations and governments. Community care is a growth industry and that is part of

the excitement."

"My job will be ensuring that the human resource policy and procedures are in place," he said. "The company wants to be the highest quality health-care provider in the country. It is easy for companies to make statements like that. In order to become a quality company you need to have good human resource practices."

Students raise age question

By Rita Fatila

Conestoga's health office is still answering questions about meningitis, said Kim Radigan, coordinator of health and safety at the college.

The difference this time is the age of the people asking questions.

"The ones who are asking now are the 23- to 25-year-olds," Radigan said. "They've heard about the University of Waterloo and want to know, 'What do we do?'"

Even though the Waterloo Region health department has not recommended a meningitis vaccination for anyone over the age of 22, the University of Waterloo offered three clinics last week for students above 22 after a 23-year-old Mississauga man contracted the disease. The man had gone to a New Year's Eve party at UW's Federation Hall along with 1,000 - 1,500 other people.

Radigan said UW had been inundated with requests for the vaccine by students over age 22 and obtained the vaccine from a wholesaler. The wholesaler gave the UW the vaccine, but urged them to share their supply with Wilfrid Laurier University and Conestoga.

"I talked to the doctor there and he said our students are welcome to go," said Radigan.

At the clinics, held Jan. 12 - 15, students had to pay \$20 for the vaccine. All Conestoga students who paid were to be reimbursed by the DSA student drug plan, Radigan said.

"We've had people of all ages come in and ask about it. We're saying go to your family doctor."

Calling all distinguished Conestoga teachers

By Rita Fatila

Students who want to recognize a great teacher can do so by nominating him or her for the Aubrey Hagar Distinguished Teaching Award.

The award is given to a Conestoga faculty member who is innovative and creative, and demonstrates leadership and concern for students. The teacher must also be "an ambassador for the college," according to a press release.

At least two current or former students must nominate the teacher, as well as someone who is

a current faculty member. Managers and members of support staff may also nominate teachers. All candidates must be nominated by at least four people.

The winner, however, is chosen solely by the college faculty. A selection committee, made up of faculty members from all schools in the college, as well as previous Hagar award winners, judges each nominee.

Last year's winner, Alix McGregor, was the 10th winner of the award. The teacher who is given the Aubrey Hagar award receives \$800 for professional development and a specially

designed liripe, as well as a framed Conestoga college coat of arms.

Nomination forms will be available until March 9 from any members of the selection committee. The members include Mark Salmikivi, Brent Walker, Ted Spicer, Ruth MacIntyre, Lana Lee Hardacre, Tony Kattenhorn, Stu Hood, Arden Mertz, Alix McGregor and Jane McDonald.

The award is given in honor of Aubrey Hagar, a Conestoga administrator for 17 years. Hagar's duties included that of director of academic and college planning and director of strategic planning.

He retired in 1986.

Union representatives and faculty created the award upon Hagar's retirement "because he embodied the qualities that created excellence in the teaching-learning process." Hagar keeps a close watch over his award and is consulted before any changes are made to the selection process and criteria.

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Editorial

To clone or not to clone

The reality of cloning humans may be debatable. But, if outraged ethicists around the world are any indication, it's not something that will be readily accepted.

Just last year we learned that the concept of a brave new world may not be as farfetched as we once thought it was.

Now an Illinois physician has announced his intentions to clone humans.

For anyone who has seen the movie *Gattaca*, this concept may be just a bit too appalling.

Hailed as either a brilliant scientist or a madman, G. Richard Seed has ethicists everywhere up in arms over his plans to clone humans to help infertile couples have children.

Raising all sorts of moral questions, and tempers, the good doctor plans to clone adults who can't have children so their offspring will genetically be their own.

Most people probably still remember Dolly, the sheep who made headlines last year, capturing the world's attention by being the first mammal to be cloned successfully.

It may seem a little far fetched to be thinking about cloning humans already when they've only cloned animals so far.

Yet, travelling back in time only 15 to 20 years to explain the glories of the CD player or the frustrations of wading through all the junk on the Internet, people would probably be just as outraged over futuristic predictions.

Granted, comparing a CD player with a human being isn't all that realistic. However, this example is only supposed to show that some of the changes which are happening around us every day aren't that obvious to us until we look back at how things used to be.

It may be swell to say that we could get rid of diseases by cloning only healthy genes, and Scott's efforts to help childless couples may be considered noble, but, in the end it just puts us one step closer to reducing our worth as human beings.

Cloning creates all sorts of quandaries we didn't have to deal with 10 years ago.

It certainly can't be ethical to make a copy of yourself.

Trying to distinguish someone we know out of a crowd can be challenging enough, just think of all the identity confusion cloning would create.

The mere thought of having one or several replicas of yourself out there can be baffling enough and, now we have to worry about being mistaken for our other identical selves?

What if our replica is a criminal wanted for murder?

Then there are those who've already decided that their clones will be very useful for spare body parts.

But, if a clone is only used for replacing someone's lung because he or she has been a smoker, this will seriously affect how clones are viewed as part of society.

Just how much of a human being will the new creation be?

Will the clone be accepted by society as an equal or will it have to fight for its rights like slaves, and women had to and aboriginals still have to?

The cloning experiment may have been a major breakthrough for Dolly supporters.

However, we should realize that humans are a little more valuable than sheep.

It's not something to look forward to if we end up reducing the human race to a bunch of guinea pigs.



Animals not created to perform for people

The recent mauling of a circus animal trainer by a tiger during a publicity photo shoot has brought back an age-old question: Should wild animals be held in captivity and trained to entertain the public attending circus shows?

Because of the unclear answer to this question, a trainer now lies in a hospital bed in critical condition and a tiger, overcome by natural instincts, lies dead. It was killed shortly after mauling the trainer in St. Petersburg, Fla. a couple of weeks ago.

Regardless of how much humans try to tame and train wild animals, they are never going to take away their natural instincts. Of course it's serious when a tiger attacks a man, but did that tiger really deserve to die for being something it simply is — a creature taken from the wild whom people tried to tame like a dog?

Why is everyone so surprised that a tiger would attack a man? I would think it would be expected, regardless of how much time the trainer spent with it. It is just something that tigers do.

This animal did not deserve to die. It was made a victim by humans and wasted its life entertaining mindless, candy corn-eating humans who, as reported in a recent Guelph Mercury article, thought they were getting a "rare look" at exotic animals and were enjoying a learning experience.

Animal rights activists are up in arms over the incident, saying the true feelings of tigers towards their trainers were shown that day. While I do feel badly for the trainer who is in critical condition in the hospital, I must say he shouldn't be too surprised. The incident shines light on the fact that no matter how well-trained a circus animal may be, sooner or later something like this is very probable.

While I do believe circus trainers love their animals, I can't understand why they don't see the injustice of what they are doing to these animals' lives. Elephants, bears and tigers are not pets and should not be raised in an unnatural environment such as a circus. They deserve a better life where they may roam free in their natural habitat, the way nature intended. There are enough zoos around that if someone wanted to see one of these animals, they easily could. And although zoos are not natural habitats either, at least these animals aren't forced to do absurd tricks for human entertainment that they were never meant to do.

According to the Mercury article, circuses have been accused by animal rights activists of starving and mistreating exotic and sometimes endangered animals. Elephants are shackled and kept in cramped spaces, just big enough to hold them, while other animals are kept in cages and not allowed to exercise for more than a couple of hours a day. Activists also say that no trainer ever has control over any animal.

Circus officials, of course, deny these accusations, saying they love and nurture the animals. They defend keeping dangerous animals by saying attacks are rare and trainers build trust with their animals. An official at the Ringling Bros. Circus, Andy Ireland, had a letter he wrote published in the Indianapolis News a couple of years ago. It said many of the circus's trainers grew up with the animals they work with, so "relationships of mutual trust and respect are established from the very beginning".

I would have to counter and say that just by basic animal behaviour, they were not meant to mingle among humans. Exotic animals are still wild, no matter how hard circus trainers try to defeat their nature.



Barbara Ateljevic

SPOKE

Keeping Conestoga College connected

SPOKE is published and produced weekly by the journalism students of Conestoga College.

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Every generation needs its teen heroes

Anyone watching MuchMusic on Jan. 4 would have certainly thought a riot was taking place in Toronto that evening. The streets were filled with screaming kids, traffic was directed away from Queen Street West, police officers were guarding shops, and the intimidating glare of television cameras lit up the scene.



Lisa Roberts

Holocaust threats? Post-Boxing Day bedlam? No, it was merely a visit to the Chum/City TV building by American pop sensation the Backstreet Boys.

Yes, Virginia, the Florida-based quintet sent Canadian fans into orbit by coming to MuchMusic for an Intimate and Interactive session. The group performed at the Skydome the previous night, reducing the adolescent gathering to a shrieking mass.

One of their fans happens to be my younger sister who turned 23 this month. I believe she is suffering a latent teen rebellion because of her ardor towards bands like the

Backstreet Boys, Hanson and the Spice Girls.

She attended the Backstreet Boys show in Toronto, and waited outside MuchMusic the next morning with the frenzied throng before her ailing health got the best of her. Freezing rain didn't help the influenza she picked up on Christmas. Needless to say, she passed on camping out for the day.

Every adolescent generation tends to focus its attentions on a music artist or group that are as famous for their good looks as for their talent, catapulting them into stardom. Dominant among females, teen idol worship is a way of attaching someone to a person that is unattainable but appealing.

Music is an escape for some; those who favour aesthetically appealing celebrities in the recording industry can combine the element of fantasy into the diversion music provides. I was not able to actually date anyone from Duran Duran; instead, I gave myself a distraction from the daily routine by listening to the music and visualizing the experience while drooling over pinups.

Another number in the legion of pop enthusiasts, my sister is unwittingly contributing to the

tradition of musical celebrity fandom that has been passed down for generations in this century.

We watched the Backstreet phenomenon on television, and

saw kids being carried into the Chum/City TV building by ambulance attendants. We heard of one poor girl that suffered a fractured ankle. Like many others

obsessed with musical objects of devotion, we silently agreed that we would have gladly done the same thing, albeit for different reasons, sometime in our lives.

My close bout with meningitis

The week before the Christmas break ran rather smoothly for me. I started my new job as production manager at SPOKE and I was excited



Corina Hill

to see all the changes I was destined to incorporate at the paper. The winter break was fast approaching and I wanted to do as much as I possibly could before my friends all went back to their hometowns.

Enter the infamous Christmas cold.

I went out with friends to drink on the last day of class and I started to feel strangely. My voice started getting scratchy and my head started to hurt. I excused myself and went home to rest.

After sleeping for 14 hours, I awoke the next day feeling worse than I had ever felt before. My body and neck ached. The sound of my head pounding rang in my ears as I was forced to face the fact that I was sick.

I tried to rest as much as possible but the symptoms kept getting worse. It was just before falling into a long nap Christmas Eve that I overheard on the news that someone in Kitchener had died with an illness unbeknownst to me.

Enter the meningitis outbreak.

Before this night I had tried to ignore the news. Being overworked at a part-time job as well as at school, current events were the last thing on my mind.

Soon the news of the outbreak

was spreading like wildfire, and everyone was avoiding contact with anyone who appeared to be sick. It must have been hard for my customers to avoid me. Everyday I dragged myself out of the sanctity of my bed to work behind the counter at a certain fast food restaurant.

All the food, folks and fun made me dizzy and I finally decided to stay home. It was during this time that I happened to catch another local newscast.

Lying in bed, I perched my head up on a pillow and waited for news on the outbreak. Suddenly my eyes became wide as I stared at the screen. Before me sat a list of meningitis symptoms.

I had all of them.

After a few days of lying in bed, I dragged myself to the doctor.

The room was cold and clean, reeking with disinfectant. My doctor walked in and put as much room as possible between us. He asked me to describe my symptoms to him. Every one just flew out of my mouth while describing the horrible meningitis-like symptoms I described.

As my doctor stared to examine me, my heart sped up. After peeking rather reluctantly into my mouth, he held the cold stethoscope on my back.

After listening to my lungs he backed away from me.

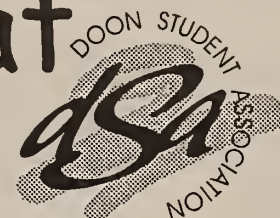
The air was thick as I waited for his diagnosis.

"You're definitely sick," he said, dashing all my hopes of living since meningitis kills so quickly.

"You have bronchitis." Anything said after that sentence flooded over me, never to be heard by my ears. I was happy to be alive.

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Loan default rates jump in 1997

Richard Berta

Conestoga College's default rate on student loans jumped from 15.9 per cent in 1996 to 19.5 per cent in 1997.

The increase at Conestoga is part of a larger province-wide trend of default increases.

Conestoga's default rate, nevertheless, remains the lowest of any college in Ontario.

According to Carol Walsh, the college's financial services manager, the low default rate is due to the college's high student retention and placement rate.

Defaults arise when students who feel they can't repay their loans give up trying, said Walsh.

The students most likely to default are those who are unemployed or those that have simply withdrawn from programs, she added.

But the provincial government is taking a harder line when it comes to defaults. The Ministry of Education and Planning is scheduled to announce its intention to reduce default rates to 10 per cent within five years.

Both opponents and proponents of the government's new policy, agree that the worst thing a student can do is to default on a loan. "By defaulting, they risk being

harassed by collection agencies, having their credit rating damaged and losing their income tax returns," Walsh said.

In fact, the government may even look at contacting employers and notifying them of employees who have defaulted on a loan.

The message to students is clear, Walsh said. Students with loans should make arrangements with the bank to repay them. She said that banks would be willing to be lenient and allow students to repay loans on terms acceptable to both.

"The banks would rather have part of their loan repaid on a piecemeal basis, than have none of it all," she said.

She acknowledged that the reason why many students fail to discuss consolidating their loan with the bank, is that they are overwhelmed by the complexity of the loan and in reaching alternative payment plans.

Consulting with the bank can shed some light on the nuances of loans and can enlighten students to the existence of alternative repayment schemes, Walsh said.

She added that more often than not, ignorance of the existence of such programs, is the primary factor in students not bothering to consult the bank in the first place.

Walsh pointed out that interest



Conestoga's manager of financial services, Carol Walsh.

(Photo by Richard Berta)

relief is available for 36 months after graduation for anyone struggling with repayments.

However, in light of the increasing intolerance against defaulters, Walsh encouraged students to think twice about applying for a loan in the first place.

She added, "Sure, receiving a large loan is advantageous in the short term, but over the long term it's a greater burden because not only is there a larger prime rate to repay, but there's also a higher interest rate to be paid."

Students need funding, says department head

Richard Berta

Jack Fletcher, head of student services at Conestoga, suggested that if the government is going to raise tuition and be more stringent with defaulters, then it should also increase financial assistance for students.

Fletcher, who is also on the college advisory committee, said he has had frequent contacts with the provincial government on the issue of loan repayments.

"As the cost of education increases, so will defaults, and this will result in student accessibility to higher education declining," Fletcher said, commenting on the rise in defaults at Ontario colleges last year.

He added that defaults were likely to continue to increase as long as students lacked comprehensive financial assistance.

Fletcher said he made recommendations to increase government grants and forgivable loans to the Ministry of Education and Training.

"So far, we haven't received any feedback suggesting anything concrete," he said.

Fletcher said that colleges and universities have no control over student defaults, just as they lack control over which students receive loans, which is why colleges were riled when the province published their default rates on the Internet. Fletcher said this gave the false impression that colleges were to blame for the high rates. He added that colleges do give advice to banks and the government over which students should receive a loan, but that the final decision lies with the creditors.

"All we do is give advice and suggestions on which students should receive a loan. We don't do the paperwork, and we certainly have no control over

defaults," he said.

"Other than tightening the admissions requirements at a time of job scarcity or selecting only the best students, the college can't do much with regard to limiting defaults," Fletcher said.

"One of the reasons why Conestoga has such a low default rate is that we limit our student intake to the number of placements available. Also, the fact that we're located in an economically robust area works to our advantage."

However, Fletcher added that the current default rate of 19.5 per cent is unacceptable and is viewed by the province as such.

"The province wants to reduce the default rate in all colleges to 10 per cent within five years."

He said that although he agrees with the province's aims, he doesn't like the means they are using to bring this about.

He recalled that in a consultation with the Ministry of Education and Training, the ministry representative highlighted the colleges' responsibilities for reducing defaults without mentioning its own.

"I'd like to say that we were dividing up our responsibilities, but the province was clearly allocating responsibilities to us, without making any mention of those it had."

Fletcher added, "The problem lies in the fact that this province sees education as an expense, whereas it needs to be viewed as an investment."

He said allowing students tax credits, forgivable loans and grants, would lead to the creation of a robust workforce that would ultimately return the money invested in education.

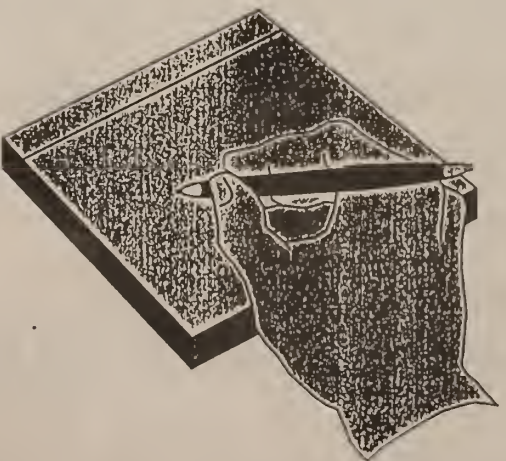
Fletcher pointed out that the current policy of the government runs counter to this aim and will result in short-term gain only.

SELF-ESTEEM WORKSHOP



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- Do you put yourself down?
- Have feelings of not being good enough?
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- Workshops are Tuesdays, (five consecutive) starting Tuesday, Jan.27/98 from 3:30-5:30 pm.

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- Multiple Choice Test Taking-Facilitator: Lynn Robbins
- Wed. Jan. 21/98 11:30-12:30;12:30-1:30
- Thurs. Jan.22/98 11:30-12:30;12:30-1:30
- Tues. March 17/98 11:30-12:30;12:30-1:30
- Wed. March 18/98 11:30-12:30;12:30-1:30
- Please see Elaine or Jeanette in Student Services, Room 2B02 to Register.

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Spoke

HEY!

It's entertainment

January 19, 1998

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©LIVE MUSIC©

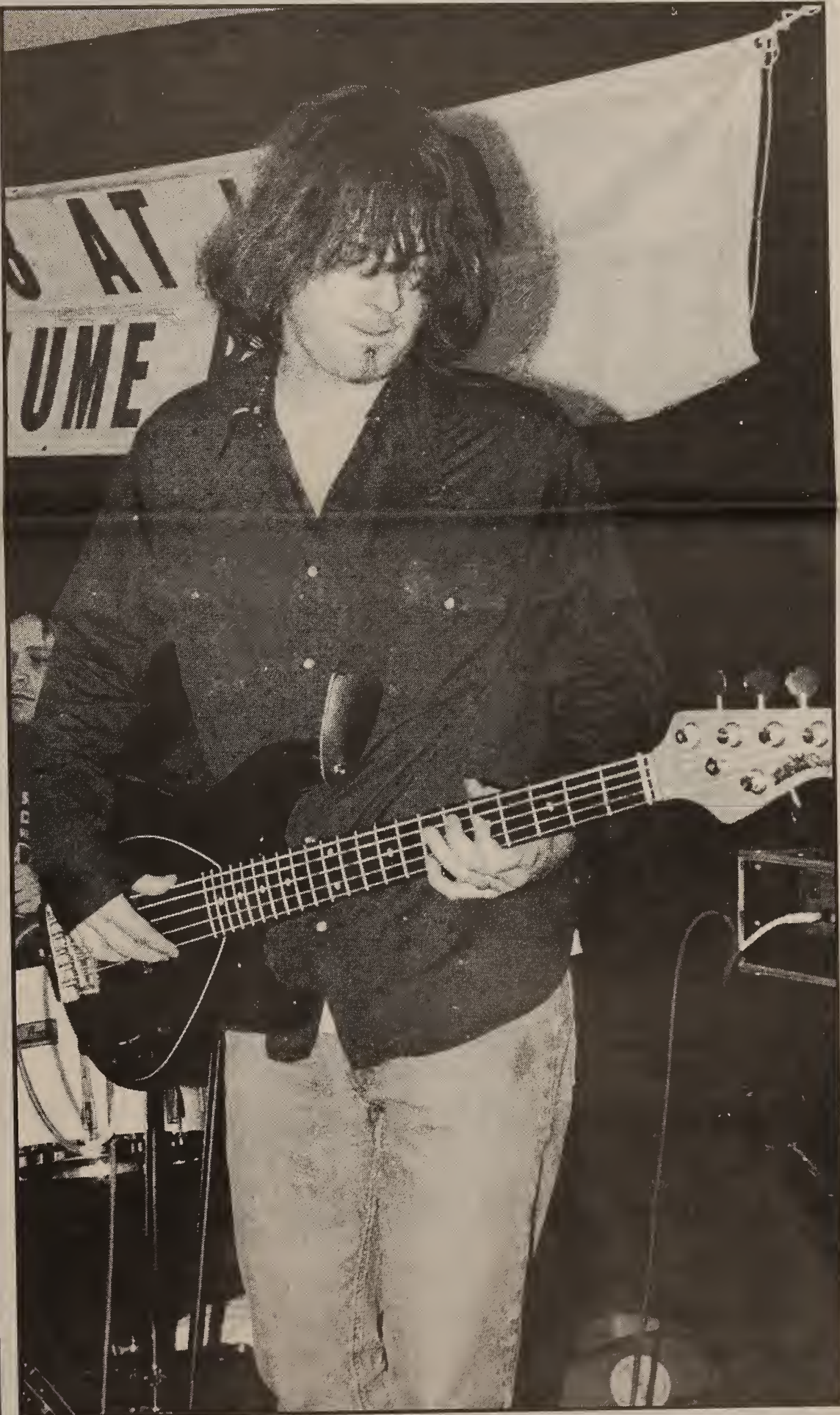
The Mike Plume Band
rocked the Sanctuary
on Jan. 8

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People magazine launches
newest magazine to hit
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Derek Mazurek, bassist for the Mike Plume Band rocks the Sanctuary on Jan. 8.
photo by Casey Johnson



◆Entertaining Conestoga College students and staff◆

GOOD WILL HUNTING

by Amy Sonnenberg

I've never been one for serious movies. Either some muscle-bound kickboxer has to kill scores of foreign enemies or a group of silly Englishmen has to search for the holy grail to keep me interested.

Good Will Hunting is the total opposite of those, but it kept me just as interested from beginning to end.

Will Hunting (Matt Damon) is a guy from the bad end of Boston who pushes broom at the illustrious Massachusetts Institute of Technology as placement by his parole officer. One day, he spots a math equation on the blackboard and solves it with ease, much to the surprise of Prof. Gerald Lambeau (Stellan Skarsgard). When Will gets in trouble with the law, Lambeau bails him out in exchange for helping him and his colleagues with math equations as well as therapy sessions twice a week to

deal with his aggression. Agreeing that the deal sucks, but sure beats jail, Will cooperates.

Will is turned down by countless therapists due to his unbearably bad attitude. However, Sean McGuire (Robin Williams) is intrigued and agrees to help save Will's life.

Of course, Will has to meet a girl who may be able to turn his life around. Skylar (Minnie Driver) is a pre-med student at Harvard that has the chance to open Will up to a change. This provides the mushy, obligatory love story that no Oscar or Golden Globe contending movie can do without.

There has been a lot of buzz about Matt Damon throughout the industry as of late - some even call him "the next Tom Cruise". I didn't see the big deal with him at first, but he really does grow on you with his boyish good looks and Colgate smile.

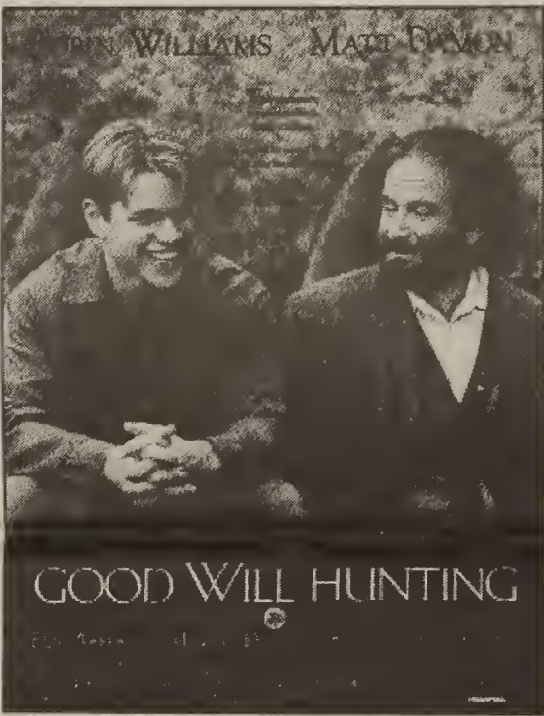
Another reason he's the talk-of-the-town is the fact that this 20-year-old and his buddy Ben Affleck (who plays his best friend Chuckie in the film) wrote the screenplay. It's refreshing to have the dialogue of young people actually written by young people, giving it a reality that older writers simply can't achieve.

Robin Williams has some witty one-liners, but one really would expect nothing less. However, he's generally very serious in this movie, and he pulls the role off well.

For those who are into sappy sentimental flicks, bring your tissues, or at least be warned that you may end up with a grapefruit-sized lump in your throat by the end.

For those who still aren't convinced they're going to like this serious movie, bear in mind that there is humor woven throughout the plot, as well as a pretty good fight scene that winds Will up in jail.

Put it this way: the only time I could see the movie was on a Sunday afternoon during the National Football Conference championship game, and I didn't care one bit that I only saw the last 21 seconds of what is quite often the best game of the season. That says a lot.●



The fighting Irish



The Boxer



by Natalie Schneider



Daniel Day-Lewis stars as Danny Flynn in *The Boxer*.

players, his determination turns it into a place for the young and old to enjoy the sport of boxing.

Flynn breaks history when he holds his first boxing match in over 14 years. However, it's not the fight that changes history, it's the fact that he invited Protestants and Catholics to come together to watch the fight. It has been years since the two sides sat in a room together without war starting.

Obviously, this stirs up a lot of emotions of the past, which some people don't take kindly to.

people don't take kindly to.

Lewis' portrayal of Flynn leaves one speechless. His ability to make the character believable is truly amazing. Flynn is a man of few words, but what he does say is unforgettable and captivating. His actions speak louder than many a man's words.

Playing the role of Flynn's old love is Maggie (Emily Watson), a prisoner's wife and the daughter of the IRA's ring leader. Although Maggie struggles with her feelings for Flynn, they soon rekindle their past love. The relationship between the two is overwhelming as they secretly steal stolen moments together to catch up on each other's lives and what's happening around them. Both risk their lives. If there was even so much as speculation that the two were together, Flynn would surely die and Maggie would be ostracized by society. Maggie's husband is a prisoner of war and IRA members don't look highly on affairs of the heart when a man who serves them sits in jail.

Together with the settings depicting a cold, gloomy, war torn Belfast, and the driven performances, this film is definitely above average. *The Boxer* takes you to a place you couldn't even comprehend unless you lived it, but for those who haven't, it makes it all too real and heart wrenching. Despite a disappointing ending that leaves things unresolved one can't help but see that it's fitting, since that is unfortunately the reality.●

The acclaimed director of *My Left Foot* and *In the Name of the Father*, Jim Sheridan brings forth another riveting film reflecting a piece of the Irish lifestyle. *The Boxer*, which hit mainstream theatres Jan. 9, is the third collaboration between Sheridan and Daniel Day-Lewis, who portrays Danny Flynn in *The Boxer*. Lewis also starred in *My Left Foot* and *In the Name of the Father*.

The Boxer takes place in Belfast, in the midst of unsettled times between the Catholics and Protestants. The viewer is taken smack-dab in the middle of an emotional journey into the lives and violent times of Belfast. The poverty-stricken dwellings and the uprising of the IRA shows a bleak view of the lives of the people and the city that holds them.

Lewis plays Danny Flynn, a prisoner of war who recently returns to Belfast after 14 years of imprisonment for his involvement in the IRA. Although Flynn was only 17 years old when he left, returning as a 31-year-old he finds not much has changed. His arrival is unwelcomed by corrupt IRA members who are uneasy about his motives.

Despite the ruthless shootings and the smell of explosives still lingering in the air, Flynn starts his new freedom on his own terms. Choosing not to return to the IRA, Flynn instead pursues his passion for boxing by converting the local run-down community centre into a boxing ring. No longer a place filled with winos and smoking card

wide mouth mason

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Hey!

Spoke



The Mike Plume Band plays the Sanctuary

by Amy Sonnenberg

Their press release describes them as "alternative country with edge" and "folk music with balls". But the Mike Plume band, who performed in the Sanctuary on Jan. 8, is hard to label.

The music can be compared to John Mellencamp or Steve Earle, but according to the lead singer, Mike Plume, the influences on individual band member's range from one extreme to the other.

Plume listed Bob Dylan, Beck, Lyle Lovitt and John Hiatt as just a few of his influences. Lead guitarist Dave Klym is into progressive punk, such as Nomeansno, bassist Derek Mazurek is into Primus, and drummer Ernie Basiliadis loves Radiohead.

It's this wide range of musical tastes that helps

give the Mike Plume band their distinctive sound: not really country, not quite blues, but not entirely rock, either.

The performance in the Sanctuary displayed the band's diversity in songs from the albums *Songs from a Northern Town* (1993), *Jump Back Kerouac* (1996), *Simplify* (1997) and the most recent release, *Song and Dance, Man* (1997).

Plume and his band played two sets, approximately 45-minutes each, of songs ranging from the fun fast-paced Big American Headliner to the slow countryish, Take me with You, to the silly tongue-in-cheek instrumental, Inbreeders' Lament.

All but one of the 21 songs performed were originals, the exception being the song Sam Stone by folk singer John Prine.



The Mike Plume Band performs live in the Sanctuary Jan. 8.

(photo by Amy Sonnenberg)

It seems the main focus of the guys from Alberta is clean simplicity (perhaps the reasoning behind the name of their third album). However, guitarist Klym added a tad more flavor with the occasional slide guitar and his frequent unconventional yet entertaining stage presence.

They may have addresses in Edmonton, but Plume, Klym,

Mazurek and Basiliadis have been calling the road home for quite some time. They've even made some stops over in Europe, with more dates lined up in the future. Europe took to the Canadian folk/rock/country/blues band well: Plume recalls selling all the CDs they had brought along with them and having to have more sent to them from Canada because the

music was in such demand.

Plume is just an average, down-to-earth guy who's more into writing and performing music he enjoys as opposed to trying to make it big. This comes through in the music.

It's refreshing to hear the originality and sincerity of the Mike Plume Band in an industry full of sell-outs.

People launches new teen magazine

Joining the wide world of print media is the first issue of *Teen People*, one of the newest magazines to hit shelves in the new year.

The magazine, which comes from the editors of its mother magazine, *People*, targets a younger generation, as the title obviously suggests. *Teen People* concentrates on music, enter-

tainment and issues that are of interest to a younger age group. After flipping through a never-ending array of advertisements for The Gap, Revlon, Maybelline and tons of other cosmetic

ads you get to the heart of the magazine.

A huge portion of *Teen People* deals with articles on the hottest teen stars such as Jerry O'Connell and Jennifer Love Hewitt, both of whom appeared in, *I Know What You Did Last Summer*. In-depth articles on Hanson, the Spice Girls and Missy Elliott also make an appearance in the first edition. Although light-hearted articles on celebrity love secrets and beauty tips adorn the magazine, more serious toned articles are also included.

Articles on eating disorders, keeping your virginity, and the violence of fraternities address issues that affect a lot of young adults. The wide spectrum of easy-reading articles to educational, informative articles definitely shows the magazine is not underestimating teenagers as shallow readers. They deliver the fun stuff, but incorporate informative articles as well. Profiles on young teenagers doing remarkable things, whether that be in sports or politics, surely empower their readers.

Managing editor Christina Ferrari writes on the editor's page that she promises to deliver a publication that is different from any other teen magazines.

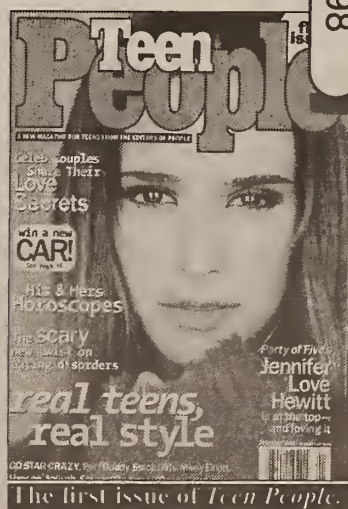
"In *Teen People*, you'll find out what your favorite stars are really like: who their friends are, what they care about and how they became successful. But we won't focus only on celebrities; you'll also read

about other teens just like you who are doing cool things. Because everybody has something special about them — and we want to celebrate that."

The magazine definitely delivers. In a time when the media

concentrates on the failures and flaws of teenagers, *Teen People* portrays the other side. A side filled with dreams, accomplishments and playing a positive role in society. It's a refreshing idea.

Although the magazine states it targets young people, in general, it has failed to a degree. There is no doubt that they target teenagers, but it seems to steer more towards the female spectrum. It weighs heavily on hot make-up trends, halter tops and women's apparel. The male population has certainly been over-shadowed.



Jan. 19 — 1998

Free Nooner The Devil's Advocates comedemons

Wed. Jan. 21

11:30 am

the Sanctuary



Top ten musical highlights of 1997

by Lisa Roberts

various artists - *Spawn* soundtrack

The combining of two musical genres for the same soundtrack was done for the 1993 release *Judgement Night*, when rap artists teamed up with the cream of the metal crop. Four years later, electronica artists are joined by the best of the alternative market. Pairings of Henry Rollins and Goldie, Slayer and Atari Teenage Riot, and Marilyn Manson and the Sneaker Pimps make the shoddy movie adaptation of the comic book story almost forgettable.

Dimmu Borgir - *Enthrone Darkness Triumphant*

This Swedish outfit successfully usurped British vampires Cradle of Filth in mastering the art of doom-and-gloom black metal. Song titles like *Master of Disharmony* and *Succubus In Rapture*, with vocal screeching that makes Linda Blair in *The Exorcist* look like an amateur, guarantee this recording as frightening but satisfying. Dimmu Borgir's third release is the perfect introduction to those curious about black metal.

Duran Duran - *Medazzaland*

Duran Duran's ninth album steers away from conceptual tapestries (*Seven and the Ragged Tiger*, anyone?) and moves back to simple pop songs. Synthesizer wizard Nick Rhodes' monotonous way through the title track, *Electric Barbarella*, the first single, celebrates every heterosexual man's dream of a gorgeous, yet

obedient cyberfemale to the backdrop of techno rhythms. A necessity for longtime fans, *Medazzaland* will also broaden their audience.

Prodigy - *Fat of the Land*

Prodigy already took North America by storm with *Firestarter*, last year's club hit. *Fat of the Land* is the band's first release in three years, containing hard driving, but danceable tunes like *Serial Thrilla*, *Breathe*, and *Smack My Bitch Up*. The latter isn't a reference to misogyny, however; according to band interviews it's the slang used by deejays to describe cueing a track. *Fat of the Land* will set standards for the electronica phenomenon.

various artists - *Lost Highway* soundtrack

The soundtrack for David Lynch's cinematic odyssey was produced by Nine Inch Nails mastermind Trent Reznor, who contributed three tracks including *The Perfect Drug*. Angelo Badalamenti's moody instrumental compositions are scattered throughout, blending well with tracks by Marilyn Manson and Smashing Pumpkins, and Lou Reed's rambling rendition of *This Magic Moment*. *Lost Highway*'s soundtrack is the perfect companion to an otherwise confusing movie.

Radiohead - *OK Computer*

Hailing from the U.K.,

Radiohead trailed the highly successful release *The Bends* with the definitive progressive rock album of the year. Cold and emotionless at times, *OK Computer* warms up during *Paranoid Android* and *Karma Police*. Letdown is moody and lush, showing off lyricist Thom Yorke's insightful side. The old adage about something present in the drinking water applies to Radiohead, who welcome the sounds of the new millennium on their latest album.

Insane Clown Posse - *The Great Milenko*

The unleashing of the fourth joker card was dropped by Disney's Dreamscope label for offensive material. Their lyrics have been branded violent and sexist, but only those open-minded enough will get the joke. With tongue firmly in cheek, ICP combine satirical rap lyrics with a circus kaleidoscope music score. *The Great Milenko* lets the listener wonder if ICP are making fun of the gangsta-rapper lifestyle they also seem to uphold.

Coal Chamber - *Coal Chamber*

This Los Angeles quartet released their debut effort to international acclaim, subsequently landing them opening slots for bands like Type O Negative and Megadeth. Vocalist Dez Fafara is comparable to Jonathan Davis of Korn for lyrical honesty;

Unspoiled is an account of his painful divorce. Big Truck and Oddity are relentless, while Loco has the subtlety of a jackhammer. *Coal Chamber* offers a refreshing perspective on the constantly evolving metal genre.

Our Lady Peace - *Clumsy*

Picking up where Naveed left off, *Clumsy* offers dark but danceable tunes to satisfy Canadian music fans. Combining neo-mystical lyrics and imagery, Our Lady Peace has garnered fans on both sides of the border with this album. Superman's *Dead* and Automatic Flowers are examples of good pop song writing, while the title track creates a somber, but uplifting mood. A successful sophomore effort for the band, *Clumsy* fails to disappoint.

Live - *Secret Samadhi*

Lakini's Juice is the album's first single, showing off frontman Ed Kowalczyk's ability to create moods with words alone. *Freak* explores the world of taboo subjects with raw honesty. Turn My Head and Rattlesnake are quieter in comparison but force listeners in a subtle way to pay attention. If *Throwing Copper* merely whetted one's appetite for material from Live, then *Secret Samadhi* will definitely satisfy.



Closure a treat for Nine Inch Nails fans

by Lisa Roberts

In case you were wondering what on earth happened to Trent Reznor after *The Downward Spiral*, fear no more. A two-tape video package called *Closure* was released just before the new year to keep fans satisfied until the much awaited follow-up to the momentous 1994 release.

The video package has been

labelled Halo 12, in keeping with the numbering system given to Nine Inch Nails releases. Unfortunately, Universal Pictures refused to distribute *Closure* because of "offensive material," and therefore it has been banned from certain stores in Ontario. Those fortunate enough to get their hands on a copy should consider themselves lucky for obtaining such a collector's item.

The first of the two tapes contains all of Nine Inch Nails's promotional videos, including the uncut version of *Closer*, *Head Like A Hole*, the very explicit *Happiness in Slavery*, and *The Perfect Drug*. The videos are looped together with disturbing stock footage of self-mutilation and an elephant being electrocuted, as well as conceptualized images directed by Peter Christopherson from the experimental band Coil.

A bonus for fans is the video for *Gave Up*, the last track on the Grammy winning *Broken EP*. Cameos by Filter's Richard Patrick, industrial pioneer Martin Atkins, and Marilyn Manson before he started abusing make-up, provide a mere backdrop for this otherwise standard performance piece. *Gave Up* was filmed at the infamous Tate mansion, where *The Downward Spiral* was conceived and recorded.

The second tape, called *Self-Destruct*, features behind-the-scenes footage of Nine Inch Nails's massive 1994-1995 tour that took the band all over North America and Europe. Mandatory dressing room destruction scenes are intertwined with shots of Reznor composing the soundtrack for *Natural Born Killers* and hanging out with touring mate David Bowie.

Footage from the infamous mud-covered Woodstock perfor-



Trent Reznor is the mastermind behind Nine Inch Nails, shown live during their Downward Spiral tour in 1994-95. *Closure* documents life on the road for the band.

photo courtesy of George DeSota, Circus magazine

mance are overlapped with interview clips with Reznor, who described that performance as one of his best. There is also a violent collage of scenes that show Reznor and company destroying various pieces of onstage gear, and occasionally each other. Former touring drummer and recording assistant Chris Vrenna received 20 stitches after a microphone stand was vaulted in his direction, resulting in a huge gash across his head.

Self-Destruct is a fan's eye-

view into life on the road; with footage not always at its best quality-wise, it is also a glimpse into the heart of an inspiring musician.

Overall, *Closure* is a requiem for the single most influential band of the '90s. In a sense, it signifies the end of one era, but heralds the beginning of another, courtesy of *The Perfect Drug*. *Closure* is a necessity for NIN devotees and a staple of '90s musical culture for alt-rock fans.

Movie of The Week

Tues. Jan. 20

11:30 am

The Sanctuary



Hey!

Book attempts to make job hunting easier

Companies don't favor degrees over diplomas, says author of employment guide

By Amanda Fickling

Finding a job after graduation may be a terrifying thought. The Canada Student Employment Guide, written by Kevin Makra and released in December 1997, attempts to make this task less daunting.

The Employment Guide is a Canadian publication and the third book in a series that began in 1995.

Makra said he first decided to write it after experiencing frustration trying to find a job after he graduated from the University of Toronto in 1992.

"After graduation I realized that reality isn't like school," said Makra.

While searching for a job, he found a number of "how to" guides to assist him. He noted, however, that none of these books outlined exactly what employers look for.

"The Canada Student Employment Guide is a combination of all the 'how to' guides," said Makra.

Not only does the guide instruct students on how to write resumes,

prepare for interviews and exude self-confidence, it also describes the relationship between companies and possible employees.

It provides an understanding of what individual companies look for in an employee. The guide profiles companies across Canada, noting which companies are hiring.

Makra said he did not find that companies favor a degree over a diploma. He said companies look for specific things, and it is important to let them know your individual skills.

"A degree or a diploma is a starting point," explained Makra.

The guide describes skills that rank high on companies' qualification lists. Makra said that three skills were repeatedly mentioned to him. Communication, leadership and writing skills are all important for a company's employees to possess.

Makra encourages students to review their past and find skills to present to employers. Makra said that a number of companies view lifeguarding as an excellent quality to possess. In fact, some companies said if they saw that an

applicant was a lifeguard, that applicant would immediately stand out.

"Students short-change themselves with these skills," said Makra.

The Canadian Job Directory is another book that will be released by Makra early this year. The Canadian Job Directory is a book that can be used by everybody and is not just for students, said Makra.

The book looks at other vital resources for employment information such as firms, organizations, recruiters, career resources on the internet and trade associations.

The book looks at alternatives to simply sending resumes to companies. The directory outlines other ways to make contacts and effectively use every opportunity.

The Canadian Student Employment Guide is available at the Conestoga bookstore, Coles and Smithbooks for \$24.95.

The guide can also be accessed through career and resource centres, government centres and public libraries.



Kevin Makra, author of The Canadian Student Employment Guide. (Photo contributed by Kevin Makra)

Student helping fight ice storm in Ontario

By Matt Harris and Greg Bisch

Answering the call to the ice storm disaster, at least one Conestoga College student has gone north to help out fellow Canadians.

Jeff Fry, a third-semester journalism student at Conestoga's Doon campus, began to assist the Ice Storm of '98 relief effort Jan. 11 as a member of the Highland Fusiliers of Canada, said

his father, Allan Fry.

His father said Fry, a second-lieutenant of the militia regiment, was called on Jan. 11 to the Highland Fusiliers armory in Cambridge. From there he was sent, along with other members of the regiment, to London where they waited for further instructions.

Fry called his family on Jan. 13 to inform them he was heading toward Cornwall, which is in eastern Ontario.

As of Wednesday, thousands of homes remained without hydro in eastern Ontario. However, Quebec sustained much more damage.

About 600,000 households were completely without power, mainly in the St. Lawrence area of the province.

Fry told his family that it is possible the regiment will eventually be sent to Quebec. As well, Fry believed he would be part of the effort for between seven and ten days.

Annual job fair offers employment opportunities

By Barbara Ateljevic

Conestoga College will be co-sponsoring the annual job fair this year, to be held on Feb. 3. It will also be co-sponsored by the University of Waterloo, Wilfrid Laurier University and the University of Guelph.

The student employment office at Conestoga is encouraging graduating students to attend the fair to check out employment opportunities in their fields.

"The fair is a good opportunity for students to look at jobs," said Mary Wright, manager of student employment. "There will be a variety of employers attending to talk to grads and students."

So far, 50 employers have registered for the fair, but Wright said close to 100 are expected. Full-time, part-time, contract and summer jobs will all be offered.

The job fair will be held at Bingeman Park from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and admission is free to all students and alumni.

The student employment office also has a job board outside their office at 2B04 where students can regularly check for jobs from an updated list. "It's

important for students to start early," Wright said.

In addition to the job fair, a new guidebook of employment opportunities, entitled the Job Fair Employment Guide, will be available for students on Jan. 30. The book includes a majority of employers seeking help and gives background information on companies to students. The book is available in the student employment office.

For Conestoga graduates, the student employment office offers a resume referral service. Graduating students give eight copies of their resume to the office, and staff will forward them out to potential

employers. The service is free of charge for six months, and, if people are still looking for jobs after that time, there is a \$25 annual fee.

The office will be going around classes in March to let students know more about this service.

Another thing the student employment office offers is free resume critiquing. A student can bring their resume into the office and the staff will critique it within two days. "It's good to prepare," said Wright.

**Write a letter
to the editor.
We want to
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and
criticisms.**



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Read SPOKE
and keep
connected**



CORRECTION

In a story in the news section on page 6 of SPOKE's Jan. 12, 1998 edition, the late Jody Semeniuk's name was incorrectly spelled.



Ian James, Conestoga's manager of athletics and recreation, was photographed in the newly renovated Roost. (Photo by Corina Hill)

Roost renovated in hopes of attracting more students

By Anita Santarossa

The Condor Roost was renovated over the Christmas holidays to try and attract more student interest in the campus pub, said Ian James, manager of athletics and recreation.

James said he encourages students, especially resident students, to get involved in all aspects of college life.

"Students should become a part of the college atmosphere and not get locked up in their rooms," said James.

James also said that the Roost is a place intended to establish an alumni base.

"It's...for students to build a good college experience," said James. "Students experiencing 'good times' at college will bring them back after their studies."

The Condor Roost and its staff have refurbished the bar from its former cafeteria-like atmosphere to an actual sports bar atmosphere.

James said he wanted to change the bar by adding dimmer lighting and creating a warmer and more inviting atmosphere. The bright lighting was the main complaint coming from the students, he said.

"We asked ourselves (management and staff) what we could do, in terms of renovations, with the resources we have," said James.

Blue and red panel ceiling lights replace the former white ceiling lights, the interior walls of the Roost have a new coat of dark forest green paint and the tables are now wrapped in funky black-and-white-checked table cloths.

Much of the sports paraphernalia and wall hangings were rearranged as well.

"We kept past sports teams pictures on walls for historical representation, which is an important part of college life," said James.

Of the renovations still in progress, a new Budwiser lamp will hang over the rearranged pool table, a dart board will entertain

those Condors with a darting edge and the bar's angle will be altered so bartenders have a better view of their clientele.

James hopes the Roost will attract more students once the renovations are complete.

"We wanted the Roost to be a place where students can hang out," said James, "This is why we have provided more games."

The Roost managed to keep renovation costs down to approximately \$500, said James.

"The staff did most of the painting and redecorating while maintenance engineer, Peter Schei, installed the second keg tap and will be remodelling the actual bar itself," explained James.

Terry Fox's memory kept alive with award

By Corina Hill

Nearly 30 years ago, a courageous Canadian dipped his leg into the Atlantic Ocean, signalling the start of his run across Canada to prove to everyone just how strong his heart can be.

Any other athlete who made the decision to run across the country to raise awareness and funding for cancer research would be looked upon as a great human being.

Just what was it that put this athlete apart from the others?

When Terrence Stanley Fox decided to run across Canada, he had the whole country's support.

In 1977, the 18-year-old was diagnosed with bone cancer and lost his leg to prevent the spread of the disease. Instead of letting this slow him down, Terry Fox decided to run across Canada in a marathon of hope to raise public awareness of the Canadian Cancer Society research.

Terry Fox was 21 years old when he dipped his artificial leg into the Atlantic Ocean. With every stride, more and more Canadians became glued to their television sets, the image of the one-legged runner in the hearts and minds of all Canadians.

He averaged 25 miles every day for 143 days. He was nearly half-way across Canada when he collapsed outside of Thunder Bay, Ont. In September of 1980, the world watched in agony as the cancer that they thought was beaten crept into Fox's lungs, forcing him to abort his run.

During his run, Fox asked every Canadian to donate \$1 to

cancer research. On Feb. 1, 1981, his dream was surpassed when the Terry Fox Marathon of Hope funds totalled \$24.17 million. The total Canadian population at the time was 24 million.

Fox died on June 28, 1981.

In his memory, the government, along with Fitness and Amateur Sport, created the Terry Fox Humanitarian Award Program to encourage young people to seek the high ideals immortalized in the Marathon of Hope. The award program grants commemorative scholarships to students at any Canadian college or university.

The award criteria include Canadian citizenship and being under 25 years of age. Students applying for the award must be active in helping others and sports, as well as having a good academic standing and having overcome obstacles by giving back to their community.

Kitchener's Lauren Clarke was an award winner in 1997. She is currently studying at the University of Waterloo and has helped in organizing the local AIDS Walk. Clarke applied for the program while she was a student at Kitchener collegiate institute. She received the school's citizenship award as well as the City of Kitchener Partnership in Education Award.

A scholarship of \$400 awarded annually is being given away to students across Canada who are studying towards a degree or diploma. Applications can be picked up at the financial aid office in the student client services building.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE AUBREY HAGAR DISTINGUISHED TEACHING AWARD

Nominations open January 5th, 1998
close March 9th, 1998

Nominations forms available from the selection committee members.

For details contact a committee member:

Lana Lee Hardacre (ECE x369)
Stu Hood - (Guelph 824-9390)
Tony Kattenhorn - (Doon x213)
Ruth MacIntyre - (Stratford 271-5700)
Jane McDonald - (Doon x719)
Alix McGregor (Doon x430)
Arden Mertz - (Doon x276)
Mark Salmikivi - (Doon x353)
Ted Spicer - (Doon x282)
Brent Walker - (Doon x209)

DSA Elections '98

Nominations Open
January 19 - 28
for the following positions:

President
Vice President of Operations
Vice President of Student Affairs

More information
is available
at the DSA Office



Ottawa apologizes to aboriginals

Government offering \$700 million in addition to regular funding

By Rachel Pearce

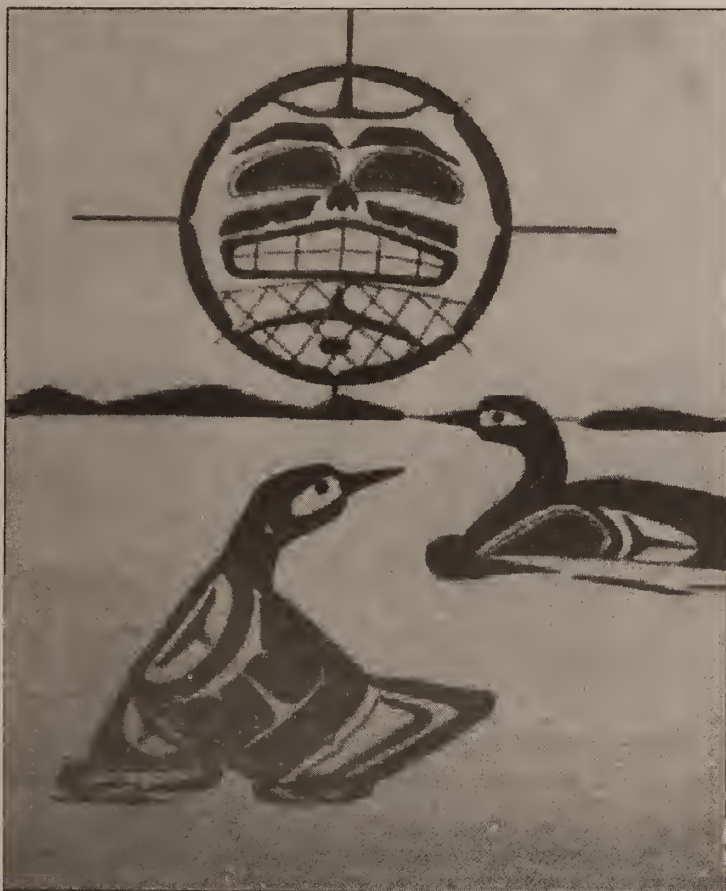
Chief Wellington Staats, the elected leader of the Six Nations, is trying to be positive about Ottawa's "statement of reconciliation"—an apology offered by Indian Affairs Minister Jane Stewart Jan. 7 on behalf of the federal government for its part in the mistreatment of aboriginal peoples over more than a century.

"I certainly think that it's a step in the right direction," said Staats during a telephone interview. "I mean, there was nothing before, but now at least there's recognition that there is a problem."

"The government has responded in a positive manner by saying, 'Look, we realize there is a problem, and we have to stand accountable for at least some of that.' So I'm very positive about the whole thing. I think they're doing the right thing here."

The apology was just one part of Ottawa's response to the Royal Commission on Aboriginal People which released its findings and recommendations for improving relations with aboriginals in a 4,000 page report in November 1996.

To heal the wounds natives have suffered at the hands of the government and to compensate those who were victims of sexual and physical abuse at residential schools set up to assimilate students into white culture, the government has committed about \$700 million in addition to regular



This piece is an example of native Canadian art. The painting was by Inuit artist P. Murdoch entitled *The Loons*.

funding. About \$350 million of the funds will be spent over the next four years for the treatment and counselling of abuse victims. A further \$350 million will be used to improve housing on reserves, to improve education for natives and to provide better health care.

While Chief Staats prefers to remain optimistic about future relations with the government, many leaders were left dissatisfied after Stewart's announcement. They criticize the plan because they say it is too weak, and because it does not recognize the

Métis and Inuit.

"I think a lot of native people were disappointed that (the apology) was not presented by the Prime Minister himself," said Teresa Nahwegahbow, executive director of Kitchener's Anishnabeg Outreach Centre which aids urban natives. "Also, they feel the Japanese people got a better response to the injuries they suffered in World War Two," she said.

Nahwegahbow, who called the relationship between First Nations and the Liberal government tenuous at the best of times, said she believes part of the problem stems from Jean Chretien's dealings with them while he was minister of Indian affairs under former prime minister Pierre Trudeau.

"Jean Chretien's lack of a voice at this apology by the federal government just reiterates that... I don't think that he feels any responsibility for what the federal government and the schools did to aboriginal people," she said in an interview.

Nahwegahbow said she thinks the general response by aboriginals to Ottawa's announcement is it amounts to too little, too late.

"I think that the residential school systems were a part of Canadian history, aboriginal history, that was swept under the carpet for much too long," she said.

"By the time it's come to light, a lot of the native students who were there are dead now."

"I know just from hearing our aboriginal leaders speaking that

they don't feel it's enough compensation, although, I guess it's better than nothing," she said.

Although the \$700 million granted to the Indians falls short of the \$1.5 to \$2 billion the royal commission suggested, native leaders like Chief Staats are waiting to see just how the money will be used.

"There's no amount of money that can make up for what happened," said Chief Staats. "I think all this is a step in the right direction, but it is a 'wait and see how it's all going to turn out in the end' kind of thing. I would like to see how all this is going to work."

One of Chief Staats' biggest concerns is making sure education funding on the reserve improves.

"We need more money and more education, there's no question about that," he said. "We have 500 or more students who couldn't finish college or university just because we ran out of funding. And yet, for me, if we ever want to be self-sufficient, then education is the number-one issue for us."

Chief Staats said the extra funding should be concentrated on improving education, and that it should last for more than four years.

"It's got to be a 20-year period," he said. "That's what the royal commission was talking about. Put some money in now so you can cut back on your spending, because we won't need it in 20 years."

The Ministry of Indian and Northern Affairs was unavailable for comment.

Survey results are split over funding to natives

By Dee Bettencourt

After hearing the federal government has offered the native peoples of Canada a \$700-million healing fund over the next four years, many of the 15 Conestoga College students and staff questioned agreed with the principle of a financial settlement, but not necessarily the amount.

Few agreed Canadians should pay an additional \$1.5 to \$2 billion annually for the next 20 years, or approximately \$40 billion, to help improve relations as suggested in a report by the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples.

Rhonda Dietz, 28, a student in the social services program, simply said "no" to the extra \$40 billion, saying that, with the exception of children, non-natives have given to natives long enough.

However, she said, "I think it's okay to pay the \$700 million. Someone has got to help the kids and counselling can be pretty expensive."

Heather Hood, 20, a mechanical engineering student studying robotics questioned the fund itself.

"I don't understand why the Liberals would pay restitution to aboriginals when there are a lot of other people who won't receive

anything," she said. "It's like a parent favoring one child over another."

Indian Affairs Minister Jane Stewart made the announcement on in Ottawa Jan. 7, expressing regret for the poor treatment aboriginals have received throughout history. She apologized for sexual and physical abuse that Indian children suffered at schools across Canada.

Four out of five Indian leaders responded to Stewart's statement by dismissing the \$700 million as a weak gesture and insufficient compensation.

Roy Carlyle, a business teacher at the college, said he feels this is an excellent fund to set up, especially if there are goals for when the money is exhausted.

"Funding seems to have become a right of native and northern people, but it must be invested to perpetuate itself," said Carlyle. "What will sustain all these programs in the future?"

"If we pay, it must collectively wipe out their litigation," he said.

Daniel Stachowski, a 20-year-old electronics engineering technology student raised in South Africa by missionary parents, said he knows something about how people treat donated money, and

the extra \$40 billion is just too much.

"There is already a double standard, big time," he said. "Natives abuse their extra privileges such as hunting, by over-hunting caribou and trashing the extra carcasses."

Stachowski said the newest snowmobile he has owned is a 1972 model, but he has seen 10-year-old native children driving recent models.

He questions how natives choose to spend disposable income, and their commitment to their old lifestyle.

"Before white people came, Indians were fighting between themselves for land and assets too — they were rough on each other," he said. "They didn't give land or assets back to each other out of pity."

Dan Evans, 23, a journalism student, took his thoughts beyond dollars and cents.

"Is the money enough? Is it going to be used well?" asked Evans. "I wonder what is the cause of their problems — is it because we're here, and they're there on a reservation?"

"People were wronged — how long can they wait for restitution?" he said.



The Ice Storm of '98 blacked out areas of eastern Ontario and Quebec. Kitchener was left virtually untouched.

(Photo by Victoria Long)

Upcoming Events

January 19 - 28 DSA Elections '98

January 21 The Devil's Advocates
(in the Sanctuary)

January 22 The Hanging Garden
(the Princess Cinema)

January 27.....WIDE MOUTH MASON
(at Stages Night Club)

January 29 17th Annual Polar Plunge

February 3 Winter Camp out

February 4 Toronto Maple Leafs vs. St. Louis



Jim Quick of Kitchener practices and iron shot at Pioneer Sportsworld's driving range. (Photo by Dan Meagher)

Ever wonder
what he's
been up to?



Read **Spoke** Weekly

No place like domes

Indoor golf beats icy winter chill

By Dan Meagher

The thousands of Canadians who flock to warmer climates during the winter months may not have the last laugh after all.

It is a weekday morning and about a dozen people are teeing-off simultaneously at the indoor driving range at Kitchener's Pioneer Sportsworld.

It is a sign of the growing popularity of golf in Canada and the debunking of the myth that it is a six-month game in our nation. An increasing number of Canadians are refusing to put their clubs in storage while the snow is on the ground, and they are turning to giant domes and computer simulation to quench their thirst for golf.

"I get a round in once or twice a week," says Jim Quick of Kitchener who was finishing off a half hour of driving practice at Sportsworld. "A group of us play simulated golf regularly and I have a membership here to keep my swing going."

In fact, Sportsworld has sold out its memberships for the winter season, approximately 300 members, golf dome employee Rich Sowa says. While admitting to not being much of a golfer himself, Sowa notes that Sportsworld has a few golf pros who provide lessons throughout the winter.

"It's tough to say whether we're more popular in the winter or summer," Sowa says. "In the summer the entire park is open,

so we have some carry-over from that, but in terms of true golf fanatics, we probably have more coming in now."

The dome at Sportsworld is the only indoor driving range in the region, which contributes to its popularity. "People have to drive to London if they don't come here, so that keeps us fairly busy," Sowa says.

Yet, for those who want the full golf experience in winter will have to venture into the world of electronics.

The world of simulated golf is an expanding one, as evidenced by the crowds at All Seasons Golf in Kitchener.

The company, located on Forwell Road, offers four screens for its customers.

Manager Kelly Rector says this is their busy season and tee off times are hard to come by in the winter.

"We die down a bit during the summer, but we are really hopping right now."

The projectors hanging from the ceiling make 16 PGA courses available for the avid golfer. Rector says the mathematic accuracy is excellent and the shots are calculated very precisely.

"It's very realistic," she says. "The technology has improved so much that it is now

very life-like."

When asked if playing simulated golf really does improve your game, Rector said "For sure. It helps immensely. When you finally do get out on the course in the spring, you're not playing for the first time."

Quick swears by the method, saying that he has been able to keep his swing at its peak level thanks to the service.

All Seasons golf offers packages similar to conventional golf courses, with one hour of use costing \$25, although Rector is quick to point out that an hour is usually sufficient to play a full round.

Currently, there are only two simulated golf facilities in the city, with Club 52 being the other, which places them in demand.

Rector believes the growth of the industry will require more locations in the near future. Her location has recently added a pro shop, selling golf supplies and attire to supplement the main source of revenue.

So for those who feel the urge to golf but don't have the funds to get to Florida, look no further than city transit will take you, and you won't even have to worry about the cost of renting a golf cart.



A foursome enjoys a round of simulated golf at All Seasons Golf in Kitchener. (Photo by Dan Meagher)

Summit on Ice video provides inside story, evokes Canadian pride

By Matt Harris

The September of 1997 marked the silver anniversary of the Russia-Canada Summit Series. And, to mark the event, several videos were released for sale and to rent. One such video, Summit on Ice, is perhaps the best tale of what went on in that historic September.

The documentary opens with a fictitious scene in a classroom somewhere in Canada, with students intently watching the closing moments of Game 8. The students erupt as Paul Henderson shovels the puck past Russian goaltender Vladislav Tretiak.

The rest of the film is comprised of interviews with players and other people who had significant roles in the series. Canadian heroes like Henderson, Phil Esposito and Ken Dryden talk candidly about their emotions and their desire to win the series for their country.

In particular, Esposito gets very emotional when discussing his participation. He talks about his displeasure with the media and fans in Canada following the team's performance on home ice (Canada played the first four games in Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg, and Vancouver). He, along with Harry Sinden, talks about the volatile attitude among the players on their departure for Russia. It is this candidness that makes this video worth watching. Every man interviewed speaks as if the series had just happened. Esposito says that much of what he remembers is in slow motion, allowing him to remember every last detail.

But it is not just the Canadian players that offer their take on the series. Several Russian coaches and players talk of their respect and reverence of the high-profile Canadian team. Tretiak, who was considered a "suspect goaltender at best" by the Canadian coaching staff, details how he approached



each game. He was the only goalie to play every game in the series; Dryden and Tony Esposito split the duty for Canada.

Along with Tretiak, Soviet players such as Viacheslav Starshinov, Vladimir Petrov and Boris Mikhailov relate their sentiments about the series.

Throughout the video, the original broadcast call of Foster Hewitt is heard. This alone should give older hockey fans chills. His fumbling with the names of Russian players adds a touch of humor.

This video differs from a new boxed set, called September 1972, in that it only offers highlights of each game. The new set of videos, which sells for around \$45, offers the eighth game in its entirety. However, the depth to which the series is covered in Summit on Ice provides enough insight to the emotions and attitudes of both sides for all hockey fans to appreciate.

Additional interviews with Alan Eagleson, former Russian coach Anatoly Tarasov, and broadcaster Johnny Esaw make this a complete experience for anyone curious about the Summit Series. And for a simple rental charge, Summit on Ice offers the best account of Canada's victory over the Soviet Union in September 1972.

Skill, not personality, should determine winners

If you have ever watched a national or international figure skating competition you may have wondered quietly to yourself why, if someone keeps falling on his or her butt, such high marks are given. Six is a perfect score in amateur figure skating. This mark is saved for the people who have announced that they will be turning professional next year. Let me give you an example. Josee Chouinard skates women's singles. I have not seen her successfully complete a triple jump since she turned professional. However the judges love her because she is "cute and spunky". She also spends half the ice time on her butt. As a result she won the women's competition of the 1997 professional figure skating championships.

The skaters who have proven themselves by winning in the past have a better chance of winning in the future. It happens all the time. It also happens in international competition,



Becky Little

with judges giving a higher mark to skaters from the same country. This has been happening forever. It was never a big deal because it would usually make very little difference to the end result.

However, on the weekend of Jan. 10-11 Canada held the national figure skating competition to see who would go to the next world championships and the Olympics. During the competition some not so surprising, although rather disgruntling news came to light about figure skating. Judges are cheating more.

During the last world's competition Tracey Wilson, ex-figure skater and announcer for CBC, discovered that judges will make deals with each other to get "the right person on the podium." Wilson noticed a discrepancy with the marks the judges were giving and the order of placement the skaters ended up with. Apparently judges will band together and judge certain skaters on the basis of an agreement instead of the skater's merits.

It's not exactly fair but the skating community is used to sneaky judges.

Something else that isn't fair is the fact that the Canadian Olympic Association has a verbal agreement that unless a skater has competed in at least two previous world events, he or she may not go to the Olympics. This rule came about as a knee-jerk reaction to the time Canada sent a male skater to the Olympics and he failed to qualify. It cost money and didn't do much good for the ranks of Canadian skating. But with the Canadian championships just over will the COA stick to the rule? Since the COA has decided to send only two men to the Olympics (to save money) even though they are permitted to send three, will the COA have the guts to send the proper winner, or cheat him out of what is rightfully his?

Elvis Stojko finished in first place and will go to the Olympics. Everyone knew that before the competition.

The surprise came when newcomer Emanuel Sandhu beat out Jeff Langdon, the somewhat seasoned skater, for second place. Now the COA has to choose who can go and who can't even though that is what the competition was for.

ATTENTION READERS! — If there are any sporting events you want to read about, drop us a line here at **SPOKE** and let us know.

Email us at: spoke@conestogac.on.ca

or drop off your ideas to Room 4B15

Did you miss the first trip?

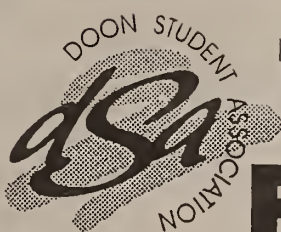
Camilla Scott Show

Thursday, January 22
departs at 3:30 pm

Tickets \$5 on sale at the DSA Office



We Dare You!



17th Annual Polar Plunge

THURS., JAN. 29

12:05 PM

DOON POND

Register at the
DSA Office



Sports opinion

Eagleson belongs in Hall of Fame

By Michael Hilborn

When hockey czar Alan Eagleson was sentenced to 18 months in prison for fraud-related offences last week, there was a public outcry for his removal from the Hockey Hall of Fame.

There is no doubt that he betrayed many of those who trusted him.

But there are compelling reasons to leave Eagleson's name among the greatest contributors to our national game.

In 1972, the entire country was galvanized by what many still believe was the greatest sporting spectacle in Canadian history.

The Canada-Soviet hockey series was supposed to be an exercise in dominance by the best of the National Hockey League over a bunch of "amateurs" from the Soviet Union.

Instead, it turned into a life-and-death struggle for our very identity.

Canada won the last three games in Moscow and clinch the series on a last-minute goal by Paul Henderson.

How could a group of players, some of whom were reluctant to even play in the series, be

motivated to such a degree?

Enter R. Alan Eagleson.

Although there is some debate over Eagleson's role in setting up the series, there is no doubt that he was instrumental in keeping it together.

A badly shaken and demoralized Team Canada arrived in Moscow for the last four games of the eight-game series after leaving Vancouver with a dismal 1-2-1 record.

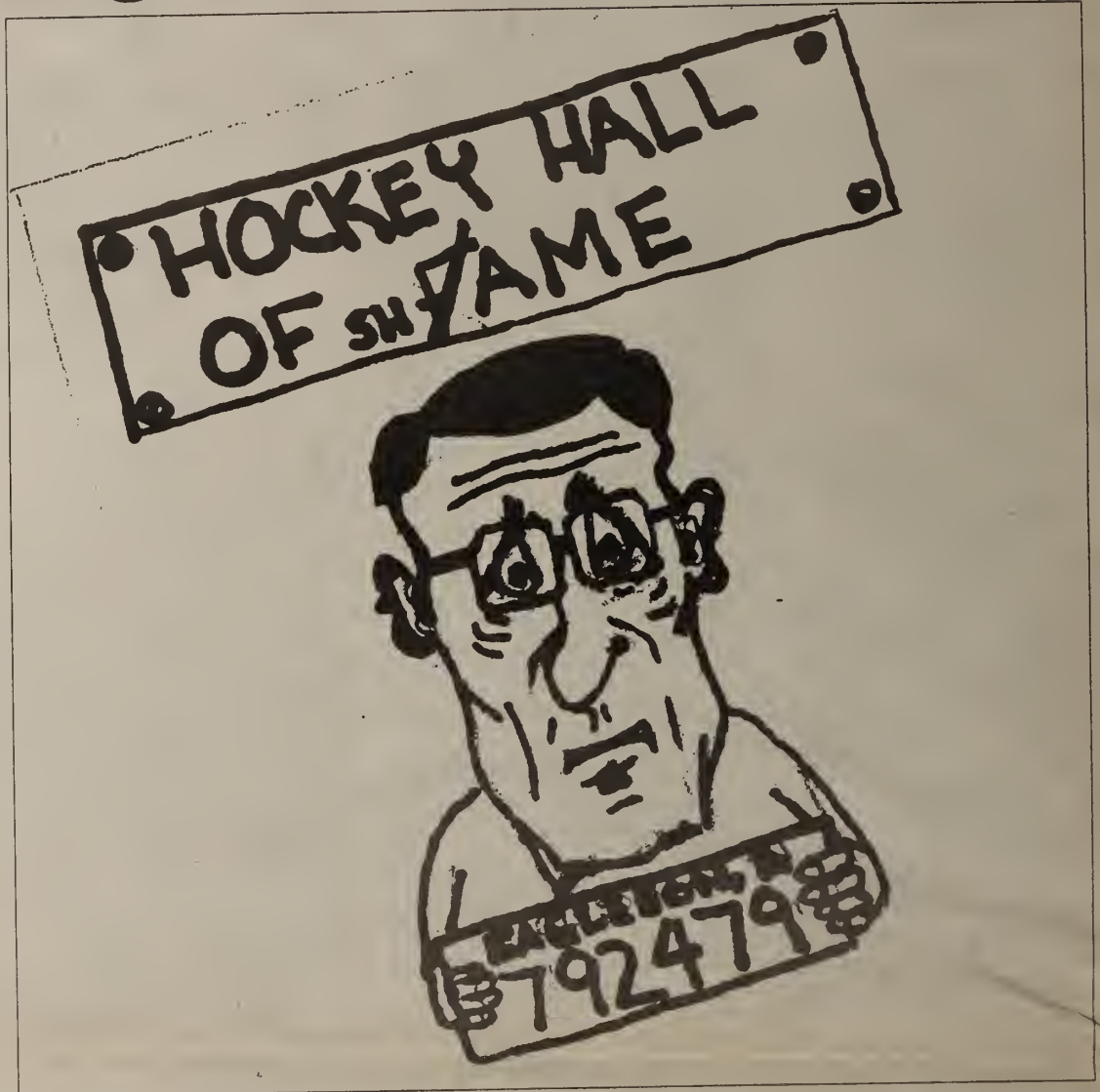
What happened next could have been taken from a Cold War novel.

From stealing their food, to denying their wives access to their hotels, to anonymous late-night phone calls, the Soviet authorities spared no effort to disrupt and disturb our players and make their lives as unpleasant as possible.

Through all of this, Eagleson was the one who stood up to the Soviets, bullied and threatened them when necessary and generally was as arrogant and obnoxious as they were.

He, and at times, he alone, kept the players focused on the job at hand while he took the heat.

Eagleson deserves to be in jail, but his contributions to hockey will remain long after his sins are forgotten.



Condor hockey home games

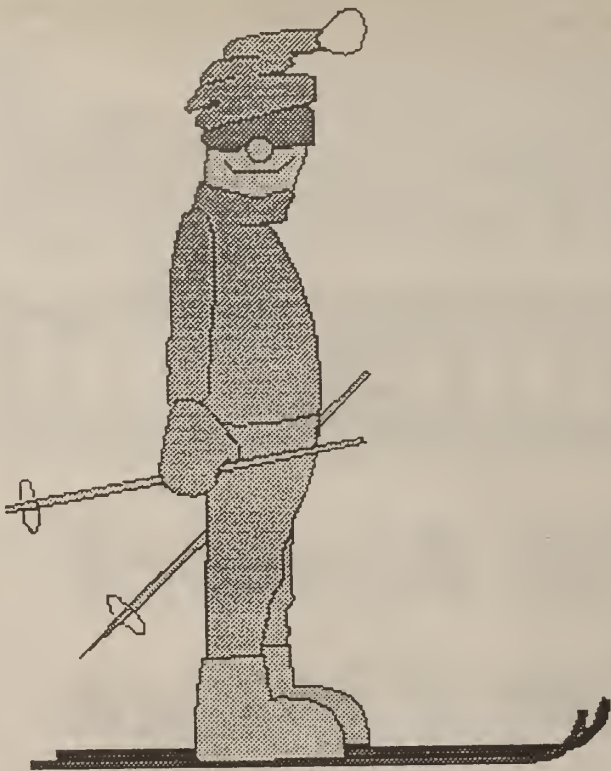
Wed. Jan. 21 7:30 p.m. vs. Seneca Scouts

Wed. Jan. 28 7:30 p.m. vs. Fleming Cougars



Sat. Feb. 7 4 p.m. vs. Cambrian Shield

Wed. Feb. 11 7:30 p.m. vs. Seneca Scouts



Blue Mountain Ski Trip, Fri., Jan. 30.

Plan to ski white at Blue Mountain. The DSA is organizing a bus trip for students, who can either ski or snowboard.

The cost of the trip is \$25, which includes an all day lift pass and transportation. The

rental rate of skis is \$11 and snowboards is \$24.

An additional credit card deposit of \$400 is required for snow board rentals.

Students may bring one (1) guest on this excursion. Sign up at the DSA Office by January 21, 1998.



Toronto Maple Leafs vs. St. Louis

Wednesday, February 4

Tickets \$40 includes transportation

Tickets On Sale Jan. 15 at the DSA Office

Limit 2 tickets per student

